

Remarks

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated **April 10, 2008**. An extension of time is required and is requested to make this response timely.

Specification Objections & Section 112 Rejections

1. The examiner states that he is unclear as to how PVA can be saponified. In regard to this point, what to be saponified is not PVA but is polyvinyl acetate, as described on page 25, lines 6-8 of the specification.
2. As to the ambiguity of the term “completely” in the phrase “completely saponified polyvinyl alcohol”, please delete “completely saponified” and “complete saponified” appearing in the specification and the claims, as indicated above.

Section 102 Rejections & Section 103 Rejections

3. In the foregoing amendment, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of original claim 4 and the feature that the ratio of the amount by mass of the first colloidal silica to the amount by mass of the second colloidal silica is 1/6 to 5/2. Support for the ratio of 1/6 to 5/2 is found in Table 3 and 4 on pages 43 and 44 of the specification. None of the references cited in the Office Action teaches this feature. As described on page 27, line 30, the claimed invention is advantageous over the prior art in that the polishing composition has an improved ability to polish an insulating layer as well as an improved ability to polish a barrier layer.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the references provides any teaching that would make one of ordinary skill in the art to make the composition of claim 1, as amended. There is simply nothing in the art that would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to consider making a polishing composition with two different sized colloidal silicas in the specified ratios. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Others

4. We have found that in the specification as filed, some symbols became garbled. The

specification including Tables 1 to 7 have been amended to correct the garbled symbols as indicated above on the strength of the specification of PCT publication No. WO2005/031836. We have also found some spelling errors in the specification. Therefore, in the foregoing proposed amendment, we have amended to correct the errors.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 5 and 12-18, as amended, are patentable over any combination of the cited references. An early notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 10, 2008

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